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WKU War Memorial Committee

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WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY

EARL A. MOORE
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

ADDRESS REPLY TO RESIDENCE:
1580 NORMAL DRIVE

April 2, 1947

President Paul L. Garrett
Western Kentucky State Teachers College
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Dear President Garrett:

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Alumni Association held last November, that organization, taking into consideration the propriety of some plans being made toward a memorial of some kind in honor of Westerners who served in World War II, and especially those who gave their lives, decided to take an initial step in that direction. In consequence of that resolution a committee was appointed consisting of:

Miss Ercell Egbert, History Department
Miss Elizabeth Coombs, Kentucky Library
Mr. William H. Natcher, alumnus, County Attorney of
Warren County
Prof. Hugh Johnson, Mathematics Department
Mr. Kelly Thompson, Assistant to the President
Mr. Joseph M. Howard, President of the Senior Class
Mr. J. D. Taylor, President of the Veterans Club

with me serving as chairman.

This committee has held numerous meetings and has given careful and prolonged consideration to a variety of possible memorial projects. The attached report represents the results of the labors of the committee. It is submitted to you at this time in order that the administration of the College may approve or reject the recommendations or any portion thereof. In case of your approval, the committee will report to the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association the recommendations and the fact of the approval of the administration, and hold itself in readiness to cooperate in translating the recommendations into action. In case of disapproval by the administration the committee will take whatever action the circumstances may call for.

As suggested in one of the recommendations, there is a desire for the handling of this matter with as much dispatch as possible, in order that, if possible, something tangible may be in existence by the time of the May commencement.

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The committee calls your attention to the fact that an announcement concerning details of the activities of this committee, which appeared in the Park City Daily News on February 28 was absolutely unauthorized; in fact, it was made in spite of a specific request that it should not be made. The committee had no desire to release to the public details which had not yet been submitted to you.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl A. Moore

The War Memorial Committee, working under the auspices of the Board of Directors of the Western Alumni Association, submits the following recommendations:

1. That the memorial for students and alumni of Western who gave their lives in World War II be a Second World War Memorial Room.
2. That this Memorial Room be incorporated in the first-floor plans for a student union building or the first appropriate building to be erected on the campus. The committee does not consider a dormitory appropriate and does consider a library or a student union building most appropriate.
3. That the cost of construction and equipment of the Memorial Room be considered an integral part of the cost of such building.
4. That the Memorial Room be designed and equipped as a room for general and recreational reading.
5. That the approximate size of the room be forty feet by sixty feet.
6. That the details of design and equipment indicated in one or the other of the accompanying sketches be used insofar as feasible, due account being taken of structural details necessary to support the contemplated weight. The committee prefers the design with windows on both sides, but submits as an alternative the one with windows on one side.
7. That a suitable flooring material be used other than wood or carpet.
8. That wood paneling be used for all, or at least the lower part of, the walls.
9. That chairs and divans of the lounge type, other chairs, tables, magazine stands, lamps, and other furnishings as indicated in the accompanying sketches be provided.
10. That all the furnishings be chosen not merely with an eye to utility, but also to attractiveness and dignity befitting the character and purposes of this room.
11. That, if the alcove arrangement indicated on the sketches is carried out, as many of these alcoves as may be needed be devoted to the memorial materials hereinafter described and that the others be provided with suitable shelving for books.

12. That the tables be fitted with reading lamps and that a liberal number of floor lamps be distributed in the room.

13. That if smoking is to be permitted in the room, a number of ash tray stands be provided.

14. That the books to be placed in the room be suitable for miscellaneous reading, not necessarily connected with classroom courses, with a proper balance between classical and popular material.

15. That these books constitute a branch of the College Library, being accessioned and cataloged by the Library, the cards in the catalogue indicating the separate location of this collection.

16. That, with the exception of the procedure mentioned in Item 15, this collection of books be kept intact as a separate branch of the Library.

17. That a minimum number of two thousand volumes be contemplated, with no maximum except as dictated by feasibility.

18. That a reasonable number of subscriptions to magazines and newspapers be maintained for this room.

19. That the eighty-seven (more or fewer) Westerners who gave their lives in the war be memorialized by photographs of them, accompanied by engrossed personal data, tastefully and uniformly framed and arranged on the walls of one or more of the alcoves.

20. That a card file of the visible display type be provided in one of the alcoves for the inclusion of a card for every alumnus, former student, or staff member known to have been in any of the services during the war. This file will permit of expansion, and continuous effort should be made to approach as nearly as possible to listing all the eligible names; a substantial portion of such a list is already available in the Kentucky Library.

21. That a filing cabinet of the vertical (or correspondence) type be provided in the same alcove, for the filing of a folder for each person in service, to contain all available data concerning him or her.

22. That the practice be instituted of inviting those who served to furnish manuscripts detailing their experiences; in the case of the deceased such invitations can be addressed to their relatives. Manuscripts so obtained are to be kept in the file mentioned in Item 21, constantly accessible to the public.

23. That the equipment of the room include a radio-phonograph (or at least a phonograph) with a collection of records of first class music, this instrument not to be used promiscuously, but only at specified times for planned programs, perhaps thirty minutes one or two evenings a week to be known as the Music Hour.

24. That at all times except those mentioned in Item 23 quiet be maintained in the room to facilitate reading and study.

25. That the hours during which the room is to be open be determined ultimately in the light of experience, but with the understanding that they will be liberal enough to enable the room to serve its purpose adequately, including regular evening hours.

26. That smoking be permitted in this room unless precautions against fire seem to make this provision unwise.

27. That a regularly employed attendant be present in charge of the room at all hours that it is open; responsible student personnel may be used.

28. That a committee consisting of four members of the faculty or staff and two students be maintained to have general oversight of the room, this committee always to include a member of the Library staff.

29. That, while no campaign for funds is contemplated, the way be opened through appropriate channels of publicity for any individual, firm, or club or other organization to contribute books, magazine subscriptions, or articles of equipment for this room, with assurance that proper recognition will be given donors by means of special book plates or other devices.

30. That pending the construction of a building to contain the permanent Memorial Room, a Temporary Memorial Room be established.

31. That the temporary room conform to any and all of the foregoing recommendations that are feasible without making permanent alterations or installations in any existing room.

32. That immediately upon the adoption of these recommendations by the administrative authorities, with approval by the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association, a start be made on the acquisition of furnishings and equipment for the permanent room, these articles to be used in the temporary room.

33. That only such things be purchased as will be suitable for the permanent room, except such temporary shelving, etc. as may be necessary.

34. Attention is called to the fact that the Bursar of the College now has on hand \$42.07 contributed by the Class of 1944, \$35.78 contributed by the Class of 1945, and \$77.91 contributed by the Class of 1946 (a total of \$155.76) designated by the donors to go into a war memorial.

35. That the temporary room be the room on the third floor of the Library in the front corner on the right end as one faces the building. This room is at present assigned to graduate study. Another room of the same size adjacent to it is similarly assigned and would continue to be used as a graduate room.

36. That a temporary partition be installed in the cased opening between the two rooms mentioned in Item 35.

37. That an electric water cooler be installed in or near this room and that some suitable device be used to reduce the excessive temperature of the room during the summer months.

38. That the hours during which the Temporary Memorial Room is to be open coincide with those during which the Library building is open.

39. That, if these recommendations are accepted, the project be begun at once, so that if at all possible the Temporary Memorial Room may be ready on or before the date of the spring commencement this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Hugh F. Johnson

J. D. Taylor

Kelly Thompson

Ernest James Egbert

William H. Hatcher

Elizabeth Coombs

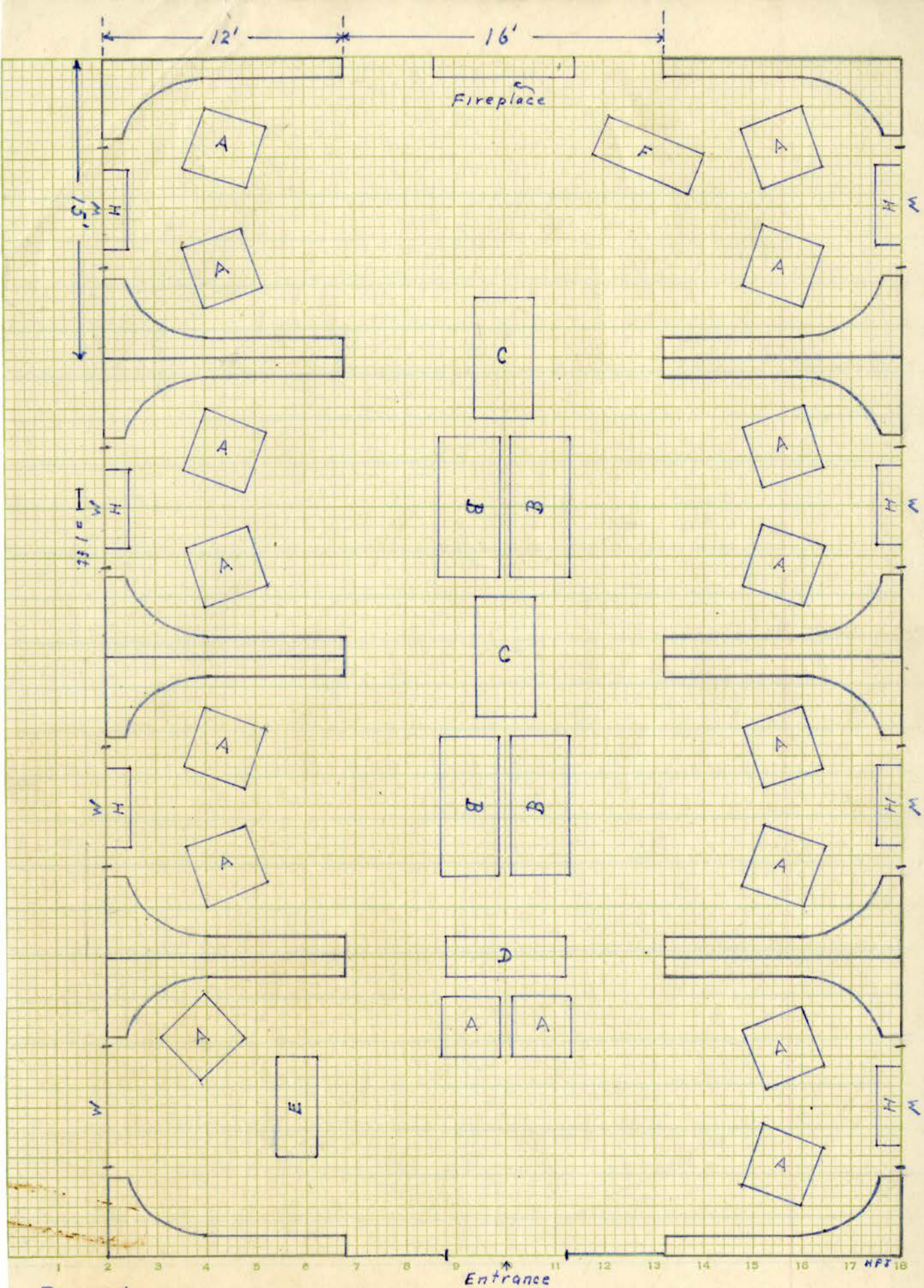
Earl A. Moore

NOTE - Mr. Joseph M. Howard, a member of the committee, completed his work and left the campus before this report was completed. He has voted his approval of the recommendations and will sign later if an opportunity is presented.

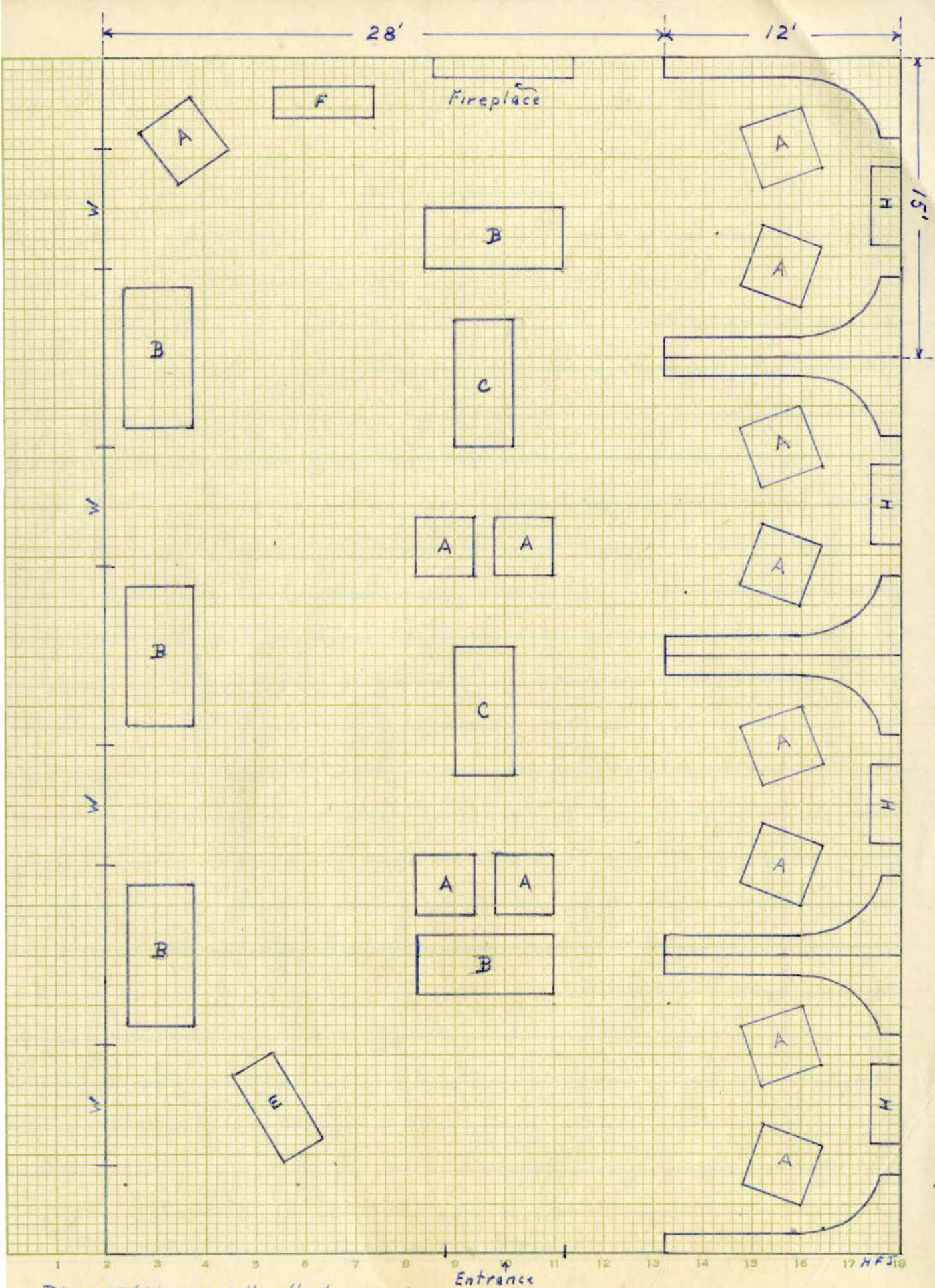
Earl A. Moore

Legend for drawings

- A Single club chair (approximately 36" x 36")
- B Divan (approximately 36" x 80")
- C Library or study type table (approximately 36" x 72")
- D Library table (approximately 24" x 72")
- E Attendant's desk
- F Radio-phonograph combination
- H Magazine stand (described in accompanying clipping)
- W Window



Plan #1



Plan #2 (Alcove wall without windows)

you can build a

MAGAZINE STAND

BY MARY LYNCH

THIS stand, planned to hold current and back issues of magazines conveniently and attractively, can be built easily at home. Since it was intended for a particular space, it was made five feet long, one foot deep and two and one-half feet high. These proportions are pleasing but they may be altered to fit other spaces.

The unusual feature of the stand is the slanting top shelf. This shelf is edged with a strip which is both a decorative finish and a support for the row of current magazines which lend their bright color to the room.

The lower shelf is used for back issues of magazines and for books.

The apron front between the lower shelf and the floor conceals two sturdy crosswise supports which prevent the lower shelf from sagging beneath the weight of the magazines.

A stain-proof top, perfect for flower containers, is a piece of double-thickness window glass, bought and cut to size at the local store. This glass need not have the thickness or beveled edge of plate glass.

The glass top was placed on the stand after the stand had been given two coats of paint to match the woodwork of the room.

